

**FOE IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CALIFORNIA LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS WILL VIGOROUSLY  
FIGHT THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS THAT  
SAVAGES HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS IN  
CALIFORNIA FOR THE POOR, WORKING POOR, SICK AND ELDERLY**

SACRAMENTO – THE CALIFORNIA LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS REJECTS THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS TO CLOSE THE MULTIMILLION DOLLAR DEFICIT IN CALIFORNIA. THE DREAM OF MANY CALIFORNIANS IS NOT ONLY DISSAPPEARING BUT IS UNDER ATTACK.

CALIFORNIA HAS A CRISIS BUT IT IS A LEADERSHIP CRISIS THAT DOES NOT PRIORITIZE ON EDUCATION AND HEALTH FOR THE STATE'S POPULATION. THE FUTURE WELFARE OF CALIFORNIA DOES NOT RELY ON THE ENDLESS PRACTICE OF BORROWING TO SOLVE THE FISCAL PROBLEMS.

"EDUCATION IS THE BASIS OF AN ENLIGHTENED SOCIETY; WE MUST KEEP THE PROMISE OF A MASTER PLAN THAT GIVES MAXIMUM BUDGET PRIORITY TO A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS. THE PUBLIC CARES ABOUT EDUCATION, WE MUST RESPOND TO WHAT THE PUBLIC NEEDS AND NOT MAKE THE DREAM OF AN EDUCATION EVERY YEAR LESS ATTAINABLE FOR THEM", SAID ASSEMBLYMEMBER JOE COTO, CHAIR OF THE LATINO CAUCUS.

"THIS IS AN ATTACK ON IMMIGRANTS AND THE MOST VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF OUR SOCIETY IN CALIFORNIA. THIS IS NOT A VIABLE SOLUTION IN A STATE CONSIDERED TO BE THE EIGHTH LARGEST ECONOMY IN THE WORLD. THE PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS ARE RIDICULOUS. THESE ARE GAMES, NOT AN EXAMPLE OF LEADERSHIP, THE STATE DESERVES MUCH MORE", DECLARED SENATOR GILBERT CEDILLO VICE CHAIR OF THE LATINO CAUCUS.

- This budget is based on the same type of short-sighted trickery – with massive borrowing, fund shifting and a trigger-on tax scheme – that got California into this fiscal mess.

- Borrowing against the lottery is worse speculation than buying a home in a grossly inflated housing market. The Governor is foreclosing on California's future.
- This budget plan savages health and social service programs like only the Terminator could. The Governor is turning California into a Third World nation that provides almost no support or opportunity for the poor, working poor, sick and elderly.
- The Governor can say whatever he wants about education funding, but the fact of the matter is schools will still have to lay off teachers, reduce staff and increase class sizes – and that's not acceptable.
- We can't have a world class state – we can't remain an economic juggernaut and a global leader – without a strong education and health care system.